<u>**IN THE CLAIMS**</u>:

The following is a complete listing of all pending claims.

Claims 1-24 (Cancelled)

25. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:

detecting a network parameter change in a network node of a transmission network;

determining, based on topology information of a radio access network, a spanning tree of routing paths corresponding to shortest paths from the network node to all other nodes; and

distributing network parameter information indicating said network parameter change from said network node to said other nodes in accordance with said spanning tree,

wherein said network node is configured to generate, for each of its immediate offspring nodes, a respective updating information and to send said respective updating information to all of the immediate offspring nodes, and

wherein the respective updating information sent to the immediate offspring nodes differs for each of the immediate offspring nodes based on the spanning tree structure.

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26. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 25, wherein said network parameter information is used in a network operation and management procedure in a radio access network.

27. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 26, wherein said network operation and management procedure is a macro diversity combining point selection procedure.

28. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 25, wherein said network parameter information relates to a quality of service related parameter.

29. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 28, wherein said network parameter information comprises at least one of a link state, a link utilization, a node utilization, and a macro diversity combining load.

30. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 25, further comprising deriving said topology information from at least one routing table.

31. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 30, wherein one routing table is provided for each network node.

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32. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 31, wherein said one routing table provides a branch information for each of the immediate offspring nodes of said network node.

33. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 32, wherein said branch information indicates branches of the concerned immediate offspring node.

34. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 25, further comprising deriving said topology information from a link state database of a routing protocol of said transmission network.

35. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 25, further comprising obtaining said topology information by running a flooding scheme and a shortest-path-first algorithm.

36. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 25, further comprising deciding on those parameters to be included in said network parameter information based on said topology information.

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37. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 25, wherein said network parameter information comprises said updating information sent to each of the immediate offspring nodes.

38. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 37, wherein said updating information comprises a branch information, a parameter update information and a node identification of the network node at which said network parameter change has occurred.

39. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 37, further comprising

distributing a received updating information from the immediate offspring nodes of said network node to an immediate offspring node of said immediate offspring nodes based on said branch information.

40. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 37, further comprising

updating a parameter information stored at said immediate offspring nodes using said updating information.

41. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 25, wherein said transmission network is a radio access network based on internet protocol technology.

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42. (Previously Presented) An apparatus, comprising:

at least one memory including computer program code; and

at least one processor,

wherein the at least one memory and computer program code are configured to, with the at least one processor, cause the apparatus at least to

detect a change in a network parameter related to said apparatus;

distribute a network parameter information to network nodes of a transmission network in accordance with a spanning tree of routing paths corresponding to shortest paths from said apparatus to all other network nodes, wherein the network parameter information is configured to indicate the change in said network parameter to said network nodes in response to said detection;

generate for each of a plurality of immediate offspring nodes a respective updating information; and

send said respective updating information to all the immediate offspring nodes,

wherein the respective updating information sent to the immediate offspring nodes differs for each of the immediate offspring nodes based on the spanning tree structure.

43. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 42, wherein said spanning tree is derived from a topology information of said transmission network.

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44. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 43, wherein said apparatus is a network node configured to decide on those parameters to be included in said network parameter information based on said topology information.

45. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 42, wherein said apparatus is a base station of a radio access network.

46. (Previously Presented) An apparatus, comprising:

at least one memory including computer program code; and

at least one processor,

wherein the at least one memory and computer program code are configured to, with the at least one processor, cause the apparatus at least to

distribute a network parameter information to network nodes of a radio access network;

receive a network parameter information from an upper node, to update a stored parameter information according to said received network parameter information, and

distribute said network parameter information to immediate offspring network nodes of the apparatus based on branch information included in said network parameter information, said branch information being derived from a spanning tree routing topology corresponding to shortest paths from the apparatus to all other network nodes; and

update said branch information in said network parameter information before distributing said network parameter information to said network nodes,

wherein the updated information is sent to the network nodes and said updated information differs for each of the network nodes based on the spanning tree topology.

47. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 46, wherein said network nodes are immediate offspring nodes of said network node.

48. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 46, wherein said network node is a base station device of a radio access network.

49. (Previously Presented) A system, comprising:

detecting means for detecting a network parameter change in a network node of a network;

determining means for determining, based on topology information of a radio access network, a spanning tree of routing paths corresponding to shortest paths from the network node to all other nodes; and

distributing means for distributing network parameter information indicating said network parameter change from said network node to said other nodes in accordance with said spanning tree,

wherein said network node is configured to generate, for each of its immediate offspring nodes, a respective updating information and to send said respective updating information to all the immediate offspring nodes,

wherein the respective updating information sent to the immediate offspring nodes differs for each of the immediate offspring nodes based on the spanning tree structure.

50. (Previously Presented) A computer program embodied on a computer readable medium, said computer program configured to control a processor to perform:

detecting a network parameter change in a network node of said network;

determining, based on topology information of a radio access network, a spanning tree of routing paths corresponding to shortest paths from the network node to all other nodes; and

distributing network parameter information indicating said network parameter change from said network node to said other nodes in accordance with said spanning tree,

wherein said network node is configured to generate, for each of its immediate offspring nodes, a respective updating information and to send said respective updating information to all the immediate offspring nodes, and

wherein the respective updating information sent to the immediate offspring nodes differs for each of the immediate offspring nodes based on the spanning tree structure.

51. (Previously Presented) An apparatus, comprising:

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detecting means for detecting a change in a network parameter related to said apparatus;

distributing means for distributing a network parameter information to network nodes of a transmission network;

wherein the distributing means distributes said network parameter information indicating said network parameter change towards said network nodes in response to said detection and in accordance with a spanning tree of routing paths corresponding to shortest paths from said apparatus to all other network nodes,

generating means for generating for each of a plurality of immediate offspring nodes a respective updating information; and

transmitting means for transmitting said respective updating information to all of the immediate offspring nodes,

wherein the respective updating information sent to the immediate offspring nodes differs for each of the immediate offspring nodes based on the spanning tree structure.

52. (Previously Presented) An apparatus, comprising:

distributing means for distributing a network parameter information to network nodes of a radio access network;

receiving means for receiving a network parameter information from an upper node, to update a stored parameter information according to said received network parameter information, and wherein the distributing means distributes said network

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parameter information to its immediate offspring network nodes based on a branch information included in said network parameter information, said branch information being derived from a spanning tree routing topology corresponding to shortest paths from the apparatus to all other network nodes; and

updating means for updating said branch information in said network parameter information before distributing said network parameter information to said immediate offspring nodes,

wherein the updated network parameter information sent to the immediate offspring nodes differs for each of the immediate offspring nodes based on the spanning tree structure.

53. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 42, wherein said network parameter information is configured to be used in a network operation and management procedure in a radio access network.

54. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 53, wherein said network operation and management procedure is a macro diversity combining point selection procedure.

55. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 42, wherein said network parameter information relates to a quality of service related parameter.

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56. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 42, wherein said network parameter information comprises at least one of a link state, a link utilization, a node utilization, and a macro diversity combining load.

57. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 42, wherein the at least one memory and computer program code are also configured to, with the at least one processor, cause the apparatus at least to derive said topology information from at least one routing table.

58. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 57, wherein one routing table is provided for each network node.

59. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 58, wherein said one routing table provides a branch information for each of the immediate offspring nodes of said network node.

60. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 59, wherein said branch information indicates branches of the concerned immediate offspring nodes.

61. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 42, wherein the at least one memory and computer program code are also configured to, with the at least one processor, cause the apparatus at least to derive said topology information from a link state database of a routing protocol of said transmission network.

62. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 42, wherein the at least one memory and computer program code are also configured to, with the at least one processor, cause the apparatus at least to obtain said topology information by running a flooding scheme and a shortest-path-first algorithm.

63. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 42, wherein the at least one memory and computer program code are also configured to, with the at least one processor, cause the apparatus at least to decide on those parameters to be included in said network parameter information based on said topology information.

64. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 42, wherein said network parameter information comprises said updating information sent to each of the immediate offspring nodes.

65. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 64, wherein said updating information comprises a branch information, a parameter update information

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and a node identification of the network node at which said network parameter change has occurred.

66. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 64, wherein the at least one memory and computer program code are also configured to, with the at least one processor, cause the apparatus at least to cause to be distributed a received updating information from the immediate offspring nodes of said network node to an immediate offspring node of said immediate offspring nodes based on said branch information.

67. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 64, wherein the at least one memory and computer program code are also configured to, with the at least one processor, cause the apparatus at least to update a parameter information stored at said immediate offspring nodes using said updating information.

68. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 42, wherein said transmission network is a radio access network based on internet protocol technology.

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